Amendments to the claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

storing, in a control unit, tables of addresses of receivers belonging to a multicast group in a packet-switched network and specific parameters of the receivers in a table, wherein the specific parameters comprise parameters which are dependent on receiver conditions;

receiving, in a routing unit, data packets from a sender;

buffering, in the routing unit, out of the data packets received from the sender multicast data packets having a destination address which is a multicast address of the multicast group;

communicating the multicast address from the routing unit to the control unit;

in the control unit, determining addresses of receivers of the multicast group indicated by the multicast address by searching the tables based on the multicast address, preparing a receiver list from the addresses of the receivers, and determining the specific parameters of the receivers of the multicast group by searching the table in which the specific parameters for each receiver of the receiver list are stored, and supplying the receiver list and the specific parameters per address of the receiver list to the routing unit;

filtering, in the routing unit, the multicast data packets in accordance with the specific parameters for each receiver of the multicast group to obtain filtered multicast data packets individualized for the respective receivers; and

transmitting, by the routing unit, the individualized filtered multicast data packets to the addresses of the respective receivers.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the specific parameters indicate a certain content of data packets that is not to be received by a specific receiver.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the specific parameters indicate a of a certain content in data packets which is not to be received by a specific receiver.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the certain content is filtered out during the filtering.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

storing, in a control unit, tables of addresses of receivers belonging to a multicast group in a packet-switched network and specific parameters of the receivers in a table, wherein the specific parameters comprise parameters which are dependent on receiver conditions;

receiving, in a routing unit, data packets from a sender;

buffering, in the routing unit, out of the data packets received from the sender multicast data packets having a destination address which is a multicast address of the multicast group;

communicating the multicast address from the routing unit to the control unit;

in the control unit, determining addresses of receivers of the multicast group indicated by the multicast address by searching the tables based on the multicast address, preparing a receiver list from the addresses of the receivers, and determining the specific parameters of the receivers of the multicast group by searching the table in which the specific parameters for each receiver of the receiver list are stored, and supplying the receiver list and the specific parameters per address of the receiver list to the routing unit;

filtering, in the routing unit, the addresses of the receiver list in accordance with the specific parameters to obtain filtered receiver addresses, the filtered receiver addresses being a subset of the receiver addresses included in the multicast group; and

transmitting, by the routing unit, the multicast data packets to respective addresses included in the filtered receiver addresses.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the buffering further includes:

detecting contents and a data amount of data packets, and wherein the

filtering further includes:

filtering the determined addresses in accordance with detected results.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the specific parameters indicate a certain time at which no data packets are to be received by a specific receiver.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein when the certain time is detected in the searching step the address of the specific receiver is filtered out during the filtering.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the specific parameters indicate a certain content of data packets that is not to be received by a specific receiver.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the specific parameters indicate a certain data amount of data packets which is not to be received by a specific receiver.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein when the certain content is detected in the detecting step the address of the specific receiver is filtered out during the filtering.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein when the certain data amount is detected in the detecting step the address of the specific receiver is filtered out during the filtering.

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a control unit configured to store in advance tables of addresses of receivers belonging to a multicast group in a packet-switched network and specific parameters of the receivers in a table, wherein the specific parameters comprise parameters which are dependent on receiver conditions; and

a routing unit configured to receive data packets from a sender and buffer

multicast data packets out of the data packets received from the sender, the multicast data

packets having a destination address which is a multicast address of the multicast group,

and communicate the multicast address to the control unit;

wherein the control unit is configured to determine addresses of receivers of the

multicast group indicated by the multicast address by searching the tables based on the

multicast address, prepare a receiver list from the addresses of the receivers, and

determine the specific parameters of the receivers of the multicast group by searching the

table in which the specific parameters for each receiver of the receiver list are stored, and

to supply the receiver list addresses and the specific parameters per address of the

receiver list to the routing unit; and

wherein the routing unit is configured to filter the multicast data packets in

accordance with the specific parameters for each receiver of the multicast group to obtain

filtered multicast data packets individualized for the respective receivers and to transmit

the individualized filtered multicast data packets to the addresses of the respective

receivers.

16.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the specific parameters

indicate a certain content of data packets that is not to be received by a specific receiver.

17.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the specific parameters

indicate a data amount of a certain content in data packets which is not to be received by a

specific receiver.

18.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the certain content is

filtered out by the routing unit.

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the control unit

determines the receiver addresses and the specific parameters via tables stored in the control unit.

21.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a control unit configured to store in advance tables of addresses of receivers belonging to a multicast group in a packet-switched network and specific parameters of the receivers, wherein the specific parameters comprise parameters which are dependent on receiver conditions; and

a routing unit configured to receive data packets from a sender and buffer multicast data packets out of the data packets received from the sender, the multicast data packets having a destination address of which is a multicast address of the multicast group, and communicate the multicast address to the control unit;

wherein the a control unit is configured to determine addresses of the receivers of the multicast group indicated by the multicast address by searching the tables based on the multicast address, prepare a receiver list from the addresses of the receivers, and determine the specific parameters of the receivers of the multicast group by searching the table in which the specific parameters for each receiver of the receiver list are stored, and supply the receiver list and the specific parameters per address of the receiver list to the routing unit; and

wherein the routing unit is configured to filter the addresses of the receiver list in accordance with the specific parameters for each receiver of the multicast group to obtain filtered receiver addresses, the filtered receiver addresses being a subset of the receiver addresses included in the multicast group, and transmit the multicast data packets to respective addresses included in the filtered receiver addresses.

22.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the routing unit detects contents and a data amount of data packets and communicates the results to the control unit which designates the filters also in accordance with these results.

23.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the specific parameters indicate a certain time at which no data packets are to be received by the a specific receiver.

24.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein when the certain time is detected by the control unit the address of the specific receiver is filtered out by the routing unit.

25.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the specific parameters indicate a certain content of data packets that is not to be received by a specific receiver.

26.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the specific parameters indicate a certain data amount of data packets which is not to be received by a specific receiver.

27.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein when the content is detected by the routing unit the address of the specific receiver is filtered out by the routing unit.

28.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein when the data amount is detected by the routing unit the address of the specific receiver is filtered out by the routing unit.

29.   (Canceled)

30.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the control unit determines the receiver addresses and specific parameters via tables stored in the control unit.

31.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the certain content is filtered out during the filtering.

32-34. (Canceled)

35.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the certain content is filtered out by the routing unit.

36-38. (Canceled)

39.   (New) An apparatus comprising a processor, the processor configured to:

receive data packets from a sender;

identify a multicast data packet having a destination address that is a multicast address of a multicast group, the multicast data packets being included within the received data packets and the multicast data packet including content;

communicate the multicast address within a request;

receive a receiver list including the individual addresses for respective receivers in the multicast group;

receive individual parameters for respective receivers in the multicast group;

filter the content of the multicast packet in accordance with the individual parameters to generate individualized data packets for the respective receivers in the multicast group; and

provide for transmission of the individualized data packets to the individual addresses of the receivers of the multicast group.

40.   (New) A method comprising:

receiving data packets from a sender at a router;

identifying a multicast data packet having a destination address that is a multicast address of a multicast group, the multicast data packets being included within the received data packets and the multicast data packet including content;

communicating the multicast address within a request;

receiving a receiver list including the individual addresses for respective receivers in the multicast group;

receiving individual parameters for respective receivers in the multicast group;

filtering, at the router, the content of the multicast packet in accordance with the individual parameters to generate individualized data packets for the respective receivers in the multicast group; and

providing for transmission of the individualized data packets to the individual addresses of the receivers of the multicast group.

41.   (New) An apparatus comprising a processor, the processor configured to:

receive data packets from a sender;

identify a multicast data packet having a destination address that is a multicast address of a multicast group, the multicast data packets being included within the received data packets and the multicast data packet including content;

communicate the multicast address within a request;

receive a receiver list including the individual addresses for each receiver in the multicast group;

receive individual parameters for each receiver in the multicast group;

filter the individual addresses of the receiver list based on the individual parameters for the respective receivers to generate a collection of filtered individual addresses, the collection of filtered individual addresses being a subset of the individual addresses included in the receiver list;

generate individualized data packets based on the content of the multicast data packet for the respective individual addresses included in the collection of filtered individual addresses; and

provide for transmission of individualized data packets to the individual addresses included in the collection of filtered individual addresses.

42.   (New) A method comprising:

receiving data packets from a sender at a router;

identifying a multicast data packet having a destination address that is a multicast address of a multicast group, the multicast data packets being included within the received data packets and the multicast data packet including content;

communicating the multicast address within a request;

receiving a receiver list including the individual addresses for each receiver in the multicast group;

receiving individual parameters for each receiver in the multicast group;

filtering, at the router, the individual addresses of the receiver list based on the individual parameters for the respective receivers to generate a collection of filtered individual addresses, the collection of filtered individual addresses being a subset of the individual addresses included in the receiver list; and

generating, at the router, individualized data packets based on the content of the multicast data packet for the respective individual addresses included in the collection of filtered individual addresses;

providing for transmission of individualized data packets to the individual addresses included in the collection of filtered individual addresses.